

NEW YORK RALLY BACKS LITHUANIA

1,000 Protest at Soviet Office and March on 5th Avenue

More than 1,000 demonstrators waving Lithuanian flags rallied outside the Soviet Mission to the United Nations yesterday to protest economic measures taken against Lithuania by the Soviet Government and to call on the United States to recognize the Baltic republic's independence.

After hearing several speakers denounce President Bush for his cautious approach to the increasingly tense situation in Lithuania, the protesters marched down Fifth Avenue to St. Patrick's Cathedral for a special mass attended by Bishop Thomas Vose Daily, the newly installed Bishop of Brooklyn.

The crowd was orderly but vocal, chanting, "Don't sell us out!" On Fifth Avenue many strollers joined in, and many others signed letters to Mr. Bush, asking him to recognize the Lithuanian government and take economic and political measures against Moscow.

Several women wore traditional hand-woven skirts and aprons, adding a festive air to the procession.

D'Amato Cites Summit Talks

Senator Alfonse M. D'Amato, the New York Republican who recently was turned back from the Lithuanian border by Soviet guards who would not recognize the visa issued by Lithuania, suggested using the coming summit meeting between Mikhail S. Gorbachev and Mr. Bush to apply pressure on Moscow to end the embargo.

Angela K. Nelsas, president of the California-based Baltic American Freedom League, said that in a meeting on Wednesday, the President reiterated his concern that any strong show of support for Lithuania by the United States might hamper President Gorbachev's efforts to change the Soviet political and economic system.

"Mr. Bush right now is not being a spokesman for the ideals this country was built on — freedom, democracy and self-determination," she said.